

10-25-2013

The Parthenon, October 25, 2013

Bishop Nash
Parthenon@marshall.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <http://mds.marshall.edu/parthenon>

Recommended Citation

Nash, Bishop, "The Parthenon, October 25, 2013" (2013). *The Parthenon*. Paper 282.
<http://mds.marshall.edu/parthenon/282>

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the University Archives at Marshall Digital Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Parthenon by an authorized administrator of Marshall Digital Scholar. For more information, please contact zhangj@marshall.edu.

WEEKEND EDITION

THE PARTHENON

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2013 | VOL. 117 NO. 39 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | marshallparthenon.com

For information on the Marshall-
MTSU game, check out
www.marshallparthenon.com

Pumpkins on Pumpkins on Pumpkins

FILE PHOTO

Hundreds of pumpkins and people will pack the famous Pumpkin House in Kenova this season >[Page 2](#)

Inside this edition:



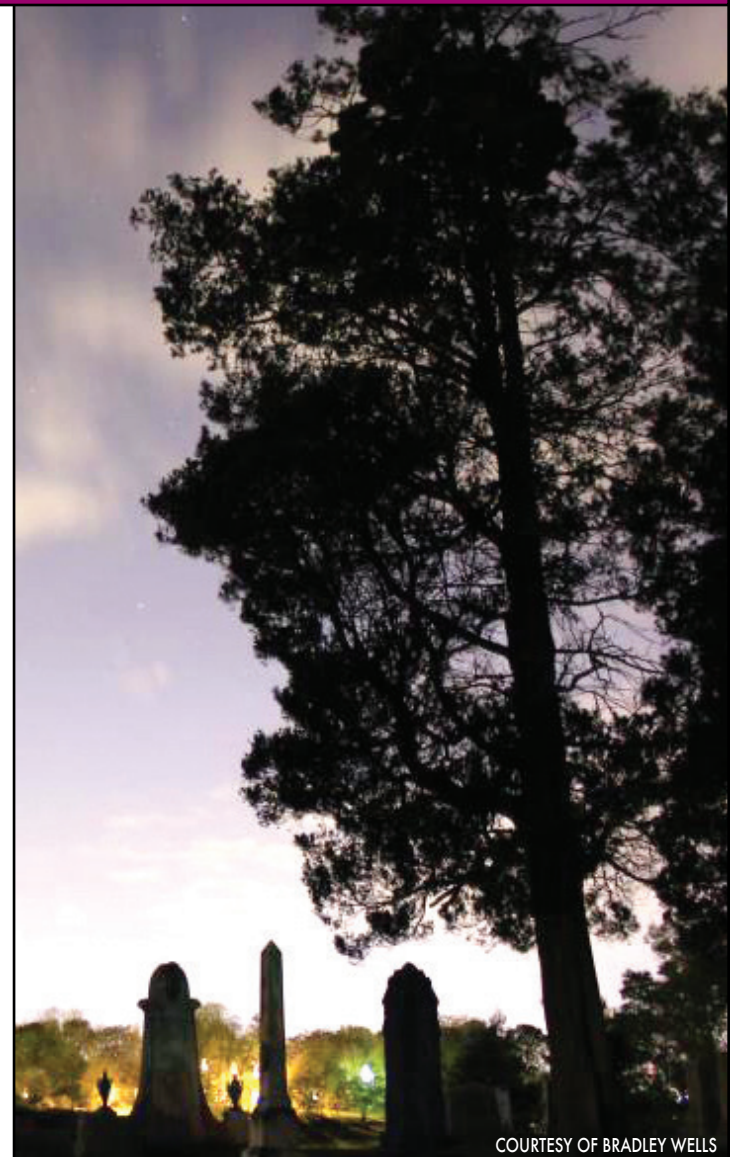
SUBMITTED PHOTO

Smash Bros. tourney
to rage on campus
>[Page 2](#)



FILE PHOTO

Oppinger, Timko
form dynamic duo
>[Page 3](#)



COURTESY OF BRADLEY WELLS

Hunting ghosts?
Here's what to know
>[Page 4](#)

Friday

HIGH 50° LOW 28°

Saturday

HIGH 55° LOW 39°

Sunday

HIGH 55° LOW 30°

page designed and edited by BISHOP NASH
nash24@marshall.edu

270679
GLENN'S SPORTING GOODS

WEEKEND EDITION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2013 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Pumpkin House to light up AutumnFest

By **BRITANY MILLER**
THE PARTHENON

Kenova Mayor Ric Griffith and dozens of volunteers began carving pumpkins earlier this week in preparation for the 2013 Pumpkin House.

Griffith's three-story Victorian home, located at 748 Beech St. in Kenova, will light up with thousands of jack-o-lanterns

this weekend in the heart of the Ceredo-Kenova AutumnFest.

The family tradition turned community event has grown from five hand-carved pumpkins in 1978 to almost 3,000 now. The event, which now draws between 20,000 and 30,000 visitors from across the region, has garnered national attention through features on CNN, The Today Show, The Ellen Degeneres

Show and the 2012 HGTV special, "Halloween Tricked Out."

But Griffith doesn't do this all alone. The pumpkin displays are put together with the help of hundreds of volunteers.

"I estimate there's between 500 to 600 people that help us each year," Griffith said. "They just walk into the backyard and say, 'What can I do?' and it's wonderful.

That's how we get it done."

In addition to the pumpkins displayed throughout the yard, along the porch and atop the roof, more than 500 will appear in the return of the music wall, where electric lights within each carved masterpiece will be synced to music.

"You can see from all the wires over there, it's like the Griswold's Family Halloween," Griffith said.

"Occasionally, we would run extension cords out of every window of the house."

After blowing the circuits twice, and ruining one freezer full of food, Griffith eventually dug conduit lines and ran it into the house, which has been re-wired, just to support the event.

See **PUMPKIN HOUSE** | Page 5

Researchers detect most distant galaxy

By **RALPH K.M. HAURWITZ**
AUSTIN AMERICAN-STATESMAN (MCT)

Using the Hubble Space Telescope and an observatory in Hawaii, researchers at the University of Texas, Texas A&M University and other institutions have detected the most distant galaxy discovered so far.

Their findings, which are being published Thursday in the journal Nature, document a place in the far reaches of the universe known by a name only scientists could love: z8-GND-5296. Unlike our own Milky Way, which creates one or two sun-like stars every year or so, the newly discovered galaxy forms about 300 such stars a year.

When scientists look at distant galaxies, they see them as they appeared in the past because of the time it takes for a galaxy's light to travel to Earth. The newly discovered galaxy was seen by the researchers as it appeared 13 billion years ago.

"Because of its distance, we get a glimpse of conditions when the universe was only about 700 million years old — only 5 percent of its current age of 13.8 billion years," A&M astrophysicist Casey Papovich said.

Taking into account the continuous expansion of the universe, the researchers estimate that the galaxy is now about 30 billion light years away; a light year is the distance light travels in a year, or nearly 6 trillion miles.

The team chose this galaxy and dozens of others for research from about 100,000 galaxies discovered in a Hubble survey. They focused on how much the galaxies' light wavelengths have shifted toward the red end of the color spectrum during their travels to Earth, a phenomenon called "redshift." The researchers probed the heavens April 17 and 18 — two crisp, clear nights — from the control room of the W.M. Keck Observatory perched atop Hawaii's dormant Mauna Kea volcano. The observatory houses two of the largest earthbound telescopes.

There might well be more distant galaxies, but z8-GND-5296 turned out to be the most distant ever confirmed, with a redshift of 7.51 — meaning it was created about 13 billion years ago. The galaxy with the previous record for distance, with a redshift of 7.2, also has a high rate of star formation and is situated in the same part of the sky as the new distance-record holder.

"There are way more regions of very high star formation than we previously thought. There must be a decent number of them if we happen to find two in the same area of the sky," Finkelstein said.

UT and A&M are also collaborating in other studies of the cosmos. For example, they and other institutions are working on a project at UT's McDonald Observatory in West Texas that will attempt to learn about dark energy, a mysterious force thought to permeate space and drive the expansion of the universe.

BRAWL!



Marshall students play video games at the fifth Brawl-a-thon in the Campus Christian Center, Nov. 5, 2012.

FILE PHOTO

Campus Christian Center gets makeover for video game tournament

By **COLTON JEFFRIES**
THE PARTHENON

Revolution, a Christian group at Marshall University, is getting ready to host the sixth annual Brawl-A-Thon at the Campus Christian Center from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m., Friday.

Beginning in 2007, Brawl-A-Thon has become the biggest video game tournament at Marshall.

For those wanting to compete, their are plenty of events to choose from.

For starters, there is the namesake of the event — a tournament of Super Smash Brothers Brawl, a popular fighting game featuring numerous characters from Nintendo. The event will feature two ways to play Super Smash Brothers Brawl. Attendees can sign up for a singles

tournament, where it's four players playing against each other, or bring a partner and sign up for the doubles tournament and play in matches featuring two teams of two people.

If fighting games aren't your thing, gamers can check out a tournament for the popular racing game Mario Kart.

People attending the event can also participate in a Pokémon tournament, but they have to bring their own Gameboys and copies of the popular handheld game.

Each tournament offers prizes to the lucky few who get far into the tournament.

The event will have free food like pizza, pepperoni rolls, chips, Chick-fil-A trays, cookies and other

desserts. Refreshments will also be available.

In the six years of its existence, Brawl-A-Thon has constantly drawn large numbers of students from across campus, according to Clay Thacker and Jonathan Pearson, the two running the event.

"I'd say around 150 to 200 people show up," Thacker said.

They said that even though the event is in the Campus Christian Center, everybody is welcome.

"Brawl-A-Thon is a time when all kinds of people come together just because it's a really fun environment," Pearson said.

For more information, visit the Brawl-A-Thon 2013 Facebook page.

Colton Jeffries can be contacted at jeffries17@marshall.edu.

Visiting artist to open new exhibit at Gallery 842

THE PARTHENON

Morgan Craig, visiting painter from Pennsylvania, will round out the semester at Gallery 842 on Fourth Avenue. The visiting artist's exhibit will open Friday.

Craig received a bachelor's of fine arts in painting with teacher certification from Tyler School of Art, Temple University, and a master's of fine arts in painting from the University of the Arts, both in Philadelphia.

"I realized I wasn't going to be a rock star," Craig said. "Being an artist, therefore, seemed like the logical path to take. It granted me the ability to say so much, without speaking a word, using a method I loved."

Craig has exhibited throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Australia, including OK Harris in New York City, SPACES in Cleveland, the Delaware Center for Contemporary Arts and the Australian National University.

"Selections from my works were recently featured in several solo and group exhibitions, including the Delaware Museum of Art, Edinboro University and the Pennsylvania College of Technology-Penn State," Craig said. "This fall, I am having a solo show at Elon University, Emory and Henry College."

Craig said with the state of the economy being tenuous at best, and so many working class people out of work, he feels his work would strike a chord with the community surrounding Marshall University.

"My hope is that it will promote discourse, which could lead to a more lucid understanding of what is really going on with this country and beyond," Craig said.

The exhibition opens Friday, with a reception from 6-8 p.m. The exhibit will last until Dec. 6.

SURVIVING A ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE

By **KATHY ANTONIOTTI**
AKRON BEACON JOURNAL (MCT)

Kelsey Smith was prepared to die when her brains were blown out by a shotgun blast. After all, it was the second time the Barberton, Ohio, woman succumbed to death, at least on screen.

Smith, who portrayed a zombie in "The Walking Dead," had been taught by experts how to take a fall to make it look real for the screen and avoid getting hurt.

Unfortunately, the skill didn't transfer to real life when several months later, her Hollywood acting and modeling career was curtailed by a fall in a snowboarding accident.

"It was catastrophic. I shattered my elbow and humerus," Smith said.

Smith said she was thrilled to be called on to portray a zombie in the first episode of "The Walking Dead's" season three. Not only did she need the work, she also loved being part of a show that has captured society's imagination with its deliciously

frightening story line.

Zombie stories are just one of the popular directions people turn for a good scare. For decades, film and television buffs have been scared silly by chain saw-wielding villains, buff vampires and other frightening things that go bump in the night.

Zombie apocalypse is the pop culture term for the end of the civilized world and the breakdown of society as a result of a spreading zombie outbreak.

As any fan of "The Walking Dead" can attest, even the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, where the series takes place, was not a safe refuge for the straggling group of survivors to find permanent refuge. On screen, the CDC was blown up in season one in a fiery explosion designed to incinerate pathogens, viruses and bacteria kept at the facility — and take out any live humans inside the building, as well.

Never let it be said the federal government doesn't have a sense of humor. With tongue planted firmly

in cheek, the CDC discovered it could use the fictional end-of-the-world scenario to effectively engage new audiences with its emergency preparedness messages.

Recognizing the popularity of the series, the agency designed a national initiative based on the zombie apocalypse premise, reasoning that if people can survive an attack of the undead, they are pretty much ready for any kind of disaster.

"If you are generally well-equipped to deal with a zombie apocalypse, you will be prepared for a hurricane, pandemic, earthquake or terrorist attack," CDC Director Dr. Ali Khan says on the agency's website.

In a program titled Preparedness 101: Zombie Pandemic, the CDC offers suggestions for people in the event of an emergency and what to include in an emergency kit to withstand an attack.

The CDC initiative has not escaped the notice of local agencies responsible for keeping people safe in an



LEFT: BY KAREN SCHIELI RIGHT: COURTESY KELSEY SMITH
AKRON BEACON JOURNAL (MCT)

Kelsey Smith before zombie makeup, left, and after, right.

attack by hunger-crazed hordes of zombies, floods, tornadoes or any other type of emergency where people are in danger.

"It's so key right now in the entertainment industry — they are into zombies. This is a great path to get people to prepare for emergencies in all events. People start reading about the zombie apocalypse and then it's all about hazard preparedness," said Valerie De Rose, Summit County, Ohio's Emergency Management Agency coordinator.

WEEKEND SPORTS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2013 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Timko, Oppinger give Herd strong pair in doubles play

By WILL VANCE
SPORTS EDITOR

In collegiate tennis, matches start with three doubles games with the team winning two of the three getting a single point towards the game total.

Doubles matches usually do not greatly contribute to the final score, the Marshall University tennis team has used the pairing of senior Karyln Timko and sophomore Dana Oppinger to provide a boost that last through the whole match.

During the 2013 spring season the two were partners in all but one match, going 13-8 with two matches left unfinished because the doubles point was already decided. The pair was most recently put together for the ITA Atlantic Regionals last weekend, advancing to the round of 16 before being ousted by the No. 7 doubles team in the nation.

"He [head coach John Mercer] told me that he was putting me with Dana because it gave us the best chance of doing well," said Timko. "He knows how well we play with each other."

Oppinger said that having similar mindsets is one of the biggest assets for the team.

"I think we're very similar when it come to our attitude on the court," Oppiner said. "We hate losing and love winning and we're fighters. When you put us together, even if one of us isn't having the right energy the other is going to push to get us both on that level."

Oppinger also said that doubles play is its own beast that requires a different approach.

"If you're playing singles, you usually have a least two sets," Oppinger said. "But



Senior Karlyn Timko (left) and sophomore Dana Oppinger in a doubles match during the 2013 spring season.

in doubles you only have eight games, so the whole thing is going to take an hour, max, and if you're not awake for even five minutes, the game could be over."

With doubles being so condensed, skill can become less important than speed and aggressiveness.

"Doubles is a lot about energy," Timko said. "It says a lot when you come out and you're fired up and running around and showing a lot of speed, it can make an impression on the other team."

Oppinger said that if her and Timko can

get things going early, it makes a huge impact on the rest of the match.

"Some teams take ten or fifteen minutes to get in the game," Oppinger said, "so if you're on it from the beginning, you've already won."

The Marshall tennis team will have one more fall tournament at the College of Charleston Halloween Challenge in Charleston, S.C., before having a rest until the spring season begins in January.

Will Vance can be contacted at vance162@marshall.edu.

FANTASY FOOTBALL: WILD WEEK EIGHT

By RYAN DORFMAN
FOR THE PARTHENON

Week Seven Recap

Week 7 will be remembered for two things: injuries and upsets.

The 4-3 Dallas Cowboys have taken control of the NFC East.

Cincinnati Bengals wide receiver A.J. Green and Detroit Lions wide receiver Calvin Johnson had monster games Sunday, after the game the two star receivers exchanged jerseys, a real class act.

The Jets beat the Patriots?! Trust me, I'm just as shocked as you are. Speaking of the Patriots, Rob Gronkowski finally returned to action!

The Kansas City Chiefs improved to 7-0. The Broncos lost to the Colts in Peyton Manning's emotional return to Indianapolis. This means, the Kansas City Chiefs are the only unbeaten team remaining, statistically making them the best team in the NFL. What?! The 2-14 Chiefs are currently ahead of the Broncos in the AFC West?! They're undefeated?! They're the best team in the NFL?! It's the apocalypse!

Relax; it's not the apocalypse. The Chiefs are 7-0 because they've had a very easy schedule thus far. They opened up against a terrible Jacksonville team, which I might add, lost again Sunday, dropping them to an 0-7 record. Then they beat Dallas, in Kansas City, by one point. In week 3 they easily defeated a injury-ridden Eagles team, demolished the winless Giants, defeated a mediocre Tennessee Titans team, crushed a mediocre Oakland team, and Sunday they barely defeated the Texans, whom I might add, lost Arian Foster to a hamstring injury and was starting their third string quarterback. Let's see how the Chiefs perform come time week 11, when they play the Denver Broncos.

Speaking of the Broncos, the Colts defeated them, 39-33. Fun fact, the Colts have defeated the Broncos, 49ers, and Seahawks this season. The Colts are for real.

Finally, as for our Thundering Herd Alumni, Patriots wide receiver Aaron Dobson recorded three catches for 34 yards in Sunday's loss to the Jets.

Injury Report

Sam Bradford-The Rams quarterback has been ruled out for the remainder of the season after an MRI revealed that he tore his ACL in Sunday's game. This decreases the value of Tavon Austin and Austin Pettis, and increases the value of Rams running back Zac Stacy.

Reggie Wayne-Devastating news for fantasy owners and Colts fans as wide receiver Reggie Wayne has been ruled out for the remainder of the season after tearing his ACL in Sunday night's game. This news drastically improves the stock of wide receiver T.Y. Hilton as he is now primed to become the Colts' number one receiving threat. Darius Heyward-Bey is upgraded to a low-end number two wide receiver.

Arian Foster-Foster left Sunday's game due to a hamstring injury. The Texans are on a bye-week next week, so Foster will have some extra time to recover. Check back next week for more information.

Doug Martin-The Tampa Bay running back has been ruled out for the remainder of the season after suffering a torn labrum in Sunday's game. This thrusts Mike James into the starting slot at running back, but despite all of the hype, I would not suggest picking him up. There are better options, trust me.

Jay Cutler-The Bears quarterback suffered a groin injury in Sunday's game and did not return. Look, I saw the replay. It didn't look like he got in below the waist. Could he have remained in the game? Maybe. Nevertheless, if a guy says he got hit below the waist, I'm not going to argue with him. Bears fans have long been frustrated with Cutler, going to say that he is "soft." If you watched the 2010 NFC Championship Game, you would know what I am talking about.

Jermichael Finley-Finley suffered a downright scary neck injury in Sunday's game. He had to be carted off on a stretcher. The tests showed that he regained most of his movement, however he will be taking more tests throughout the week.

Waiver Wire

Andy Dalton-Dalton has quietly passed for three touchdowns in his last two games. He matches up against the Jets next week. There are SIX, count them, SIX teams on bye next week so if you own Joe Flacco, Phillip Rivers, Andrew Luck, or Jay Cutler, Dalton is only owned in 24.5 percent of leagues, so he is a smart pickup if you need a bye-week fill-in.

Mike Glennon-Glennon was thrust into the starting role in Tampa Bay after Josh Freeman was cut. Glennon has put up double-digit fantasy points in his last two games, he is only owned in 1.7 percent of leagues, and matches up against Carolina next week.

See FANTASY | Page 5

Swinging for the fences with Braxton

By KARLYN TIMKO
THE PARTHENON

After securing the first-ever Conference USA Championship in Marshall history last season, the Marshall University softball team has been able to keep the momentum going. Throughout the fall season, the team posted an impressive 7-1 record, dropping its only game against Ohio University during a double-header.

Sophomore Shaelynn Braxton has contributed to the team's success since she joined the Herd in 2012. The third baseman from Woodbridge, Va., who earned a spot on the C-USA All-Freshman team last year, tallied six RBIs and one home run in just eight games this fall.

After the conclusion of her fall season this past weekend, the physical education major had the time to hit all the bases with us on a more personal level.



ILLUSTRATION BY KARLYN TIMKO | THE PARTHENON

Q: Think about your life thus far. What has been your greatest accomplishment?

A: Being a part of the Conference USA championship team last year. I think it was probably one of the best feelings of my life.

Q: If you could be any Disney princess, which one would you be and why?

A: Mulan. I've always been more of a tomboy, and I would love to be able to kick butt like her for a living.

Q: Do you have any hidden talents?

A: I love to cook and bake, especially bake. I make an excellent chocolate cake!

Q: What is your dream job?

A: I really want to start an after-school training program aimed to help student athletes. The aim would be to give them an outstanding environment that focused on both athletics and academics while providing them with guidance and support in every aspect of their lives.

Q: Where is your favorite place to eat in Huntington?

A: A drive-in burger place down on Sixth Avenue called Midway.

Q: If you could change one thing about the world, what would it be?

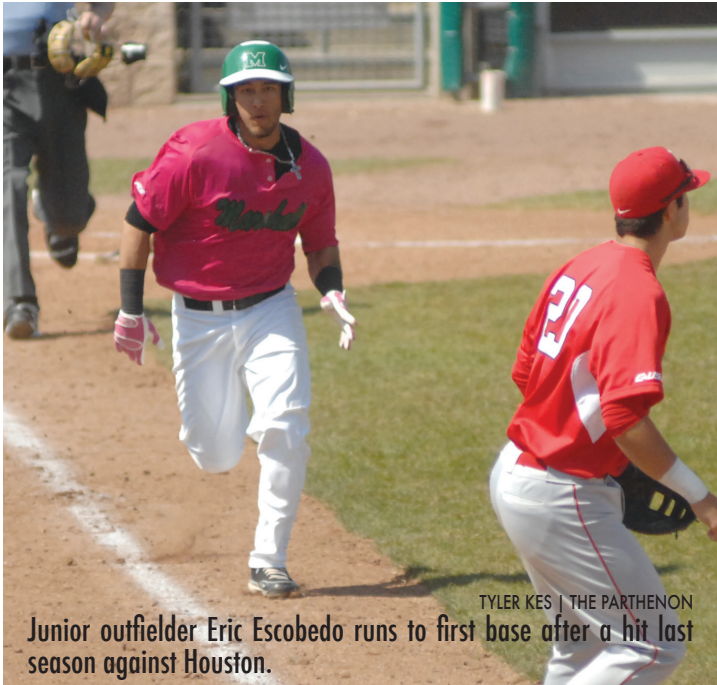
A: I would rid of all the hatred.

Q: What is your biggest fear?

A: Anything with a stinger.

See BRAXTON | Page 5

Green and White World Series continues Saturday



TYLER KES | THE PARTHENON

Junior outfielder Eric Escobedo runs to first base after a hit last season against Houston.

HERDZONE.COM

After playing the first three games of the Green and White World Series, Saturday and Sunday, the two sides will continue the best-of-seven series during the upcoming weekend on Saturday and Sunday.

Game four of the series is slated for Saturday, Oct. 26 at 1 p.m. with game five to be played Sunday, Oct. 27 at 11 a.m.

Sophomore Sam Hunter (Ashland, Ky.) got the win in game one for the White Team coached by assistant coach Brian Karlet. Trailing the Green Team 3-0 entering the sixth inning, Karlet's squad scored four in the sixth to take a 4-3 lead that held until

the game went final. A two-RBI single from freshman Spencer Iacovone in the sixth was what put the White Team on top in game one.

In game two, senior Kyle Kessler (Matthews, N.C.) got the win for the White to give his team a 2-0 series lead over coach Jeff Waggoner's Green Team.

Junior righty Clint Wilson went 4.0 innings while allowing no runs and striking out three in game three en route to a win for the Green Team. Wilson's victory pulled the Green within one of the white after the weekend concluded.

See BASEBALL | Page 5

WEEKEND EDITION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2013 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

A how-to guide for ghost hunting

By GEOFFREY FOSTER
THE PARTHENON

Ghosts—and paranormal phenomena in general—have gained so much popularity in the last decade that they’ve become practically mainstream. Ever since the notion of a scientific approach to paranormal investigation was put into practice, the belief in ghosts finally became something that could be proven... or disproven. Ghost hunting does not have to be expensive, either. Anyone can be a ghost hunter; all it takes is patience, passion and an earnest fascination with the unknown. Below is the basic information to get you started on your first ghost hunt.

EQUIPMENT

In order to successfully become an investigator, it is necessary to obtain the proper equipment. All of these items can be found online. Amazon.com is a good place to start.

1. EMF Meter (also known as a K-II meter)

A K-II meter is a device intended to detect electromagnetic

activity. For the purpose of ghost hunting, electromagnetic activity can indicate the presence of a spirit. The belief is that when a spirit is attempting to manifest (take form), to communicate with the living through speech or physical contact, it emits an electromagnetic surge. The reason for this is that when the physical body dies, all that remains is energy. This energy is what some people think of as a soul.

2. Digital or Analog Voice Recorder

A recording device is necessary to capture Electronic Voice Phenomenon (EVP). EVPs occur when a disembodied voice is captured by a recording device. Most of the time, these voices cannot be heard by the human ear at the time of the recording, but can be heard when the audio is played back at a later time.

3. Camera

A camera is the most basic piece of equipment a ghost hunter will use. Photographs will often capture anomalies

that the human eye cannot see. Any camera can be used for this purpose, though different cameras will have different results. During a hunt, you should take pictures liberally. You never know when you might capture something unusual.

4. Video Camera/Night Vision Camera

Since paranormal investigations take place in the dark, a night vision camera is essential for documenting an investigation in an effort to capture video anomalies. You can also use a regular camera, but it must have an adequate light source. In general, the built-in light in video cameras is not sufficient.

5. Laser Grid

A laser grid emits multiple beams in a geometric pattern that can cover entire rooms or large outdoor areas. If a disembodied spirit moves through such a grid, it will disrupt the beams in a manner that can reveal the ghosts size and shape.

See GHOSTS | Page 5



Ghost hunting equipment (clockwise), flashlights, video camera, infrared thermometer, K-II Meter, digital camera, digital voice recorder. GEOFFREY FOSTER | THE PARTHENON

Haunted Places in the Tri-State

There are several locations in and around Huntington that are known to house paranormal activity. What follows is a mini field guide for folks who wish to go on a ghost hunt this Halloween.

Chesapeake Community Center

3748 Ohio State Route 7
Chesapeake, OH 45619
(740) 867-4532

Located on the other side of the Ohio River, CCC used to be a middle school. It is said to house a malevolent spirit in the boiler room who tends to scratch people and the spirit of little girl with blonde hair and a blue dress.

Colonial Lanes Bowling Alley/Rebels and Redcoats Tavern

626 5th St. W.
Huntington, WV 25701
(304) 697-7100

Most of the activity here seems to revolve around the tavern, which is accessible from inside the bowling alley. Witnesses claim to have smelled tobacco smoke, heard pots rattling around in the kitchen, heard heavy footfalls, witnessed doors

opening and closing on their own and even heard their names whispered into their ears.

Dr. Grimes Dental Office

1125 20th St.
Huntington, WV 25703
(304) 529-2739

Several spirits haunt Dr. Grimes Dental Office. Chief among them is Lavina Wall, who was thrown over the balcony of the north stairwell by her father, Cyrus. She died in the house ten days later. Cyrus’s spirit has since been excised from the property, but Lavina remains.

Marshall University

There are several locations on campus believed to be haunted. These locations include Morrow Library, Old Main, Sigma Phi Epsilon House, Alpha Chi Omega House and Room 1218 in Twin Towers East, in which a male student committed suicide.

Ramsdell House

1108 B St.
Ceredo, WV 25704
(304) 453-2482

According to local legend, the Ramsdell House’s

“hidden basement” was part of the Underground Railroad. Slaves would hide there before being ferried to freedom across the Ohio River. Additionally, the property was built on top of an Adena burial mound. The property houses a poltergeist in the upstairs hallway and a little girl in the back bedroom.

Spring Hill Cemetery

1427 Norway Ave.
Huntington, WV 25705

Spring Hill houses the Marshall Memorial and a Civil War section comprised of 300 graves, including the final resting place of General Albert Jenkins. Spring Hill is nearly as old as Huntington itself and has graves that date back to the 1870’s.

Woodmere Cemetery

2701 Washington Blvd.
Huntington, WV 25701

Woodmere is known for the gravesite of Mother Blood. According to local legend, she was a mid-wife who would murder the babies of her enemies. Many paranormal occurrences have been reported at the cemetery over the years.

Another Dracula to grace TV screens

By RICH HELDENFELS
AKRON BEACON JOURNAL
(MCT)

Audiences remain intrigued by the idea of Dracula, by the possibility of a monstrous, blood-draining creature who is nonetheless charismatic and certainly sexual if not sexy. It’s no surprise, then, that NBC is trying out a new “Dracula” TV series, premiering at 10 p.m. EDT Friday.

But Dracula has long been a character best suited to short-form entertainment: books and movies, where there is some kind of resolution to a story in more or less efficient fashion. And TV series do not work that way. You have to have a bigger story, one that can stretch across 13 or more episodes, perhaps for season after season.

If your main characters are vampires, then there has to be story enough to keep them going, as shows like “True Blood,” “The Vampire Diaries” and “Angel” have tried to do with varying success. But if you’re going to make that show about the big guy, Dracula, then it had better be a really good story you’re going to tell. Or at least a long one.

Or so it seems on NBC’s “Dracula,” which takes a few notes from Bram Stoker’s original novel — there’s a Van Helsing in the series, too, for example — but puts them in service of a sprawling, conspiracy-laden tale that still allows for some nasty

carnage. (See if you can get past the early scene where a man is killed and his blood drained onto a near-mummified corpse.)

This Dracula, played by Jonathan Rhys Meyers, goes to late-19th-century London in the guise of Alexander Grayson, a wealthy American inventor and entrepreneur. Although it looks as if he wants to do business with the wealthy and powerful of London, Dracula / Grayson is really determined to dismantle an old Order of the Dragon, a conspiratorial group who did him an ancient wrong.

In the premiere, his plans are thrown slightly off when he sees Mina Murray (Jessica De Gouw), who bears a startling resemblance to a woman from his past. But there is still a war to be waged against his opponents on an old battleground; there was a vampire attack on London eight years earlier, which the Order convinced the public was instead the work of Jack the Ripper.

The “Dracula” series likes to weave in bits like that, much the way “Sleepy Hollow” does, though “Sleepy Hollow” is better at it — and a better show generally. The “Dracula” premiere is painfully slow, and Rhys Meyers is a most peculiar character, creepy and rather unattractive. The dialogue is dreary, the characters’ behavior at times incomprehensible.

There are better ways to get your fix.

Murder and Merriment acting company provides entertainment for Tri-State with murder mystery shows

By SHANNON STOWERS
THE PARTHENON

A local acting company is set to put on a murder mystery show for Tri-State residents.

Murder and Merriment, a local group of actors who perform murder mystery shows around the Tri-State area, has provided entertaining mystery shows for the last eight years.

“It’s a very unique entertainment,” George Snider, creative director of Murder and Merriment, said. “There’s nothing like it in the Tri-State.”

This year, Murder and Merriment are joining with the Collis P. Huntington Railroad Historical Society to perform the show as weekend entertainment for folks who are in town to take trips on the New River Train. The train trip runs from Huntington to Hinton, W.Va., and then back to Huntington in what is a 300-mile trip through scenic West Virginia. Although the show is train-themed and is associated with the train trip, Snider said everyone is welcome to attend.

The name of the show is “Murder on the 20th Century, Ltd.!” The show is about a theater company traveling across the country on a train when a murder brings everything to a screeching halt. Snider said this is the company’s fourth time doing a train-themed event and he is proud of how flexible the



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Acting company Murder and Merriment will perform a murder mystery show this weekend for “Murder on the 20th Century, Ltd.!”

show can be based on who it is for.

“We can perform just about anywhere,” Snider said. “We’ve written 21 shows and have four that are train-themed.”

The shows last about two hours and during that time guests will be served dinner by a catering company. When the murder happens, guests can ask questions to solve the murder with the help of a detective. Guests vote on whom they think the murderer is at the end of the night.

Murder and Merriment, which originally got its start doing shows for private parties, has a pool of 96 actors from across the Tri-State area. With a big net of actors, Snider has been able to write two or three new shows each year. Snider considers writing the shows a fun hobby and Snider said murder mystery shows are something everyone enjoys.

“One of my big hobbies is playwriting and

screenwriting,” Snider said. “If you look at the shows that get ratings on TV, it’s the murder mystery shows like CSI.”

Both shows start at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and are by reservation only. Tickets, which are limited, cost \$40 and can be purchased by calling 1-866-639-7487. Bon Appetit Catering will cater the dinner.

Shannon Stowers can be contacted at stowers44@marshall.edu.

